

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed March 9, 2010 (hereinafter "Office Action"). Claims 34-38, 40 and 42 are cancelled. Claims 5, 16 and 33 are amended. Claims 5, 12, 16, 33, 39, 41 and 43 are pending and rejected 35 U.S.C. §103(a). In light of the amendment and the remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner made the rejection of claims 5 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,850,457 ("*Gefvert*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,118,876 ("*Ruzicka*"), U.S. Patent No. 5,589,718 ("*Lee*"), U.S. Patent No. 5,470,253 to Siems et al. ("*Siems*"), U.S. Patent No. 3,824,524 ("*Glover*") and Applicant's Admitted Prior Art ("*AAPA*") of Figs. 12-14. The Examiner also made the rejection of claim 33 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Gefvert* in view of *AAPA*.

The amended independent claim 5 recites in part the following: wherein the position-controlling structure has two slits of different depth, in which one slit has a depth allowing insertion of said position-controlling member, and the other slit has a depth inhibiting the insertion of said position-controlling member, so as to prevent improper connection between the position-controlling structure and the position-controlling member. (Emphasis added).

Other independent claims 16 and 33 are amended in a similar way.

The above emphasized feature was recited in the cancelled claim 38. The Examiner rejected claim 38 for the reasons that "it would have been an obvious matter of to one skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add a second slit of shorter length in order to reduce the amount of material used, and since applicant has not disclosed that the second slit solves any stated problem or is for any particular purpose and it appears that the invention would perform equally well without the slit." The Examiner also stated that "[a]bsent any convincing showing of the criticality of the design, this particular design is nothing more than the inventor's choice without thereby departing from the scope of the invention."

Applicants respectfully submit that the design of two slits with different depths would not have been obvious to one to one skill in the art at the time the invention was made. Contrary to what the Examiner asserted, this two-slit design does solve a stated problem and/or is for a particular purpose. The purpose of such design is not to reduce the amount of material used, as stated by the Examiner. Instead, the purpose of this design is to prevent the improper connection between the position-controlling structure and the position-controlling member. (See, for example, paragraphs [0105]-[0106] and FIG. 5).

For at least the reasons described above, it is respectfully submitted that the 103 rejection on claim 38 has been overcome and, therefore, should be withdrawn. For similar reasons, it is also respectfully requested that the 103 rejections of the independent claims 5, 16 and 33 be withdrawn. Rejections of claims 39, 41 and 43 that depend from these independent claims should also be withdrawn.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Office Action have been overcome, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional rejections and/or objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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